

of the citizens of our entire nation as she steps into her new leadership role as 1st Lieutenant in the United States Air Force.

I congratulate Julie upon her tremendous achievements and wish her the best in her next step of service.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chair, it is with great appreciation that I rise in support of provisions contained within H.R. 5136, the Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011, relating to the procurement of steel armor plate and the definition of the term "produced."

Recently, the Department of Defense has implemented a regulation that allows the use of steel armor plate that is melted in foreign countries to be used in various defense applications, and I want to thank Chairman SKELTON and Ranking Member McKEON for including language that specifies that this type of steel must be melted in the United States.

I was informed of the urgency of this issue during a Steel Caucus hearing in March of this year, when we discussed that a Department of Defense regulation now merely requires the finishing processes of armor plate manufacturing to take place domestically, which is contrary to over thirty-five years of precedent requiring melting processes to occur in the United States. After this hearing, Rep. TIM MURPHY and I spearheaded a Steel Caucus letter to Secretary of Defense Gates, with 35 other Members of the Caucus signing the letter, which urged him to fully examine the implications of this regulation.

Steel armor plate plays a vital role in the protection of our troops and the defense of our nation, and the Specialty Metals Amendment, as originally included under the Berry Amendment in 1973, aims to ensure that American steel is used to protect our troops. The regulation amends the definition of produced under the Specialty Metals Amendment, and I am thoroughly concerned that this threatens the safety of our troops and the defense of our nation. Steel armor plate is used in Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles and MRAP All-Terrain Vehicles, and we must do everything possible to ensure that American made material is used in the production of these vehicles.

I understand that the House Armed Services Committee has closely followed this situation and has included report language in the past cautioning the Department of Defense on the implications of this regulation, and I applaud your continued efforts today on remedying this situation and protecting our national security and the American industrial base.

RECOGNITION OF SANDRA GARDEBRING OGREN

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and celebrate a dedicated public servant and friend, Sandra Gardebring Ogren.

Sandee has served California Polytechnic (Cal Poly) State University remarkably as the Vice President for University Advancement. Drawing upon her long record of distinguished public service, Sandee's leadership has contributed to the university's national recognition as an institute of higher education and excellence. Her tireless efforts have helped the university continue to flourish as an invaluable source of innovation and graduates of the highest academic level.

Prior to her work at Cal Poly, Sandee served as Vice President for University Relations at the University of Minnesota for six years. From 1991 to 1998 she was a member of the Minnesota Supreme Court and for two years previously she was a member of the Minnesota Court of Appeals. Additionally, she has held a variety of other public sector jobs including Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Human Services, Commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Director of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 5 Enforcement Division.

Clearly, I could talk all day about the extraordinary accomplishments of Sandee and her work in the areas of the law, the environment, human services, transportation, and education, just to name a few. I am honored to work with her and proud to call her my friend.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chair, I am proud to have joined with my friend from Texas, Mr. SESSIONS, in introducing this amendment which will provide our servicemembers that are affected by Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) with access to cutting-edge treatments. As we all know, TBIs have become the "signature wound" of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Record numbers of troops return to American soil in need of treatment and rehabilitation. While the Department of Defense has been a leader in providing treatment to our wounded warriors, it has been slow to embrace innovative treatments, such as Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy.

This amendment would establish a five-year "pay for performance" innovative treatment pilot program. The pilot program would allow healthcare providers outside of the Department of Defense to treat active duty military personnel and veterans with cutting-edge TBI treatments not offered at military medical facilities. The private healthcare providers would only receive reimbursement from the Department of Defense if the treatment was proven to be successful. Servicemembers and veterans who voluntarily opt into this program would do so at no cost.

I see this amendment as a win-win. Not only will our troops receive access to innovative therapies, but it encourages the private sector to invest in new and inventive treatments for TBI. The amendment also requires the Department of Defense to maintain a database to track the effectiveness of such treatments. It is my hope that after the conclusion of this five-year pilot, the Department of Defense will begin providing proven therapies at military medical facilities.

Our men and women in uniform deserve the best treatments available. This common-sense amendment would help to expand access to new therapies in a fiscally responsible way. I encourage all of my colleagues to join with me to support this amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 27, 2010, I was unable to participate in all of the day's votes due to a family emergency. Had I been present I would have voted: on rollcall No. 306—No—H. Con. Res. 282, Providing for adjournment or recess of the two Houses; on rollcall No. 307—No—H. Res. 1404, Providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011; on rollcall No. 308—Yes—H. Res. 1161, Honoring the Centennial Celebration of Women at Marquette University, the first Catholic university in the world to offer coeducation as part of its regular undergraduate program; on rollcall No. 309—Yes—H. Res. 1372, Honoring the University of Georgia Graduate School on the occasion of its centennial; on rollcall No. 310—Yes—Skelton of Missouri Amendment No. 1; on rollcall No. 311—Yes—Marshall of Georgia Amendment No. 4; on rollcall No. 312—Yes—McGovern of Massachusetts Amendment No. 13; on rollcall No. 313—Yes—Inslee of Washington Amendment No. 82; on rollcall No. 314—Yes—Gutierrez of Illinois Amendment No. 21; on rollcall No. 315—No—Eshoo of California Amendment No. 42; on rollcall No. 316—No—Pingree of Maine Amendment No. 80; on rollcall No. 317—No—Patrick Murphy of Pennsylvania Amendment No. 79; on rollcall No. 318—No—Sarbanes of Maryland Amendment No. 47.